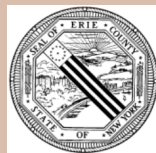




Bennett Beach dune grasses

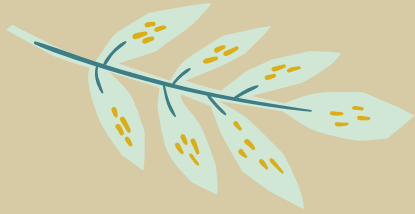
Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance

Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and
Erie counties working together
to protect our water
resources.www.erie.gov/lewpa



Defend the Dunes

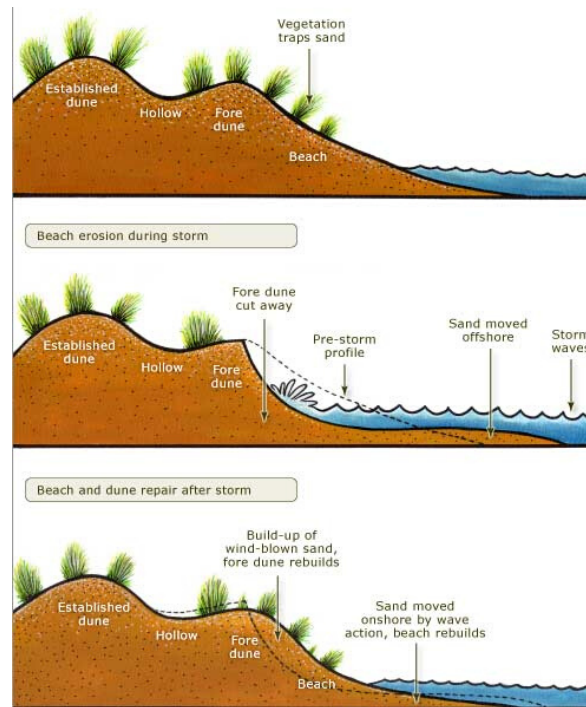




Why are dunes important?

Sand dunes are an important natural barrier for natural vegetation around coastal areas. When large storms and high winds cause flooding, the natural dunes provide protection.

Human interference with dunes causes the natural movement of the sand to be changed or destroyed therefore, they cannot protect inland areas.



(George Payne and others. New Zealand's sandy coasts. CD-ROM. NIWA, 2003.)

Stay off the dunes!

Although they may seem like fun to slide down or sit on, it is important to leave sand dunes undisturbed. Even the slightest human disturbance causes dramatic effects to the shape and effectiveness of a dune.

Why man made dunes won't work:

Dunes have a very specific sediment composition, so when bulldozed dunes are made, they lack the natural infrastructure to remain intact. That's why it is important we preserve the natural ones we have left.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Do not build

The biggest impact you can have in protecting your coastline's natural barrier is to refrain from building of any kind on coastal dune areas. This includes homes, businesses, boardwalks, docks, etc.

Keep off

refrain from walking, standing, sitting or any other kind of interaction. It is best to let the dunes be. This will prevent the important structures from being destroyed.

